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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/492,369 01/27/00 BLAHA

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EXAMINER

MM91/1010

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ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED:

10/10/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/492,369

Applicant(s)

BLAHA, WILLIAM E.

Examiner

Truc T. T. Nguyen

Art Unit

2833

-- Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspond nce addr ss --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 July 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The limitation "conductive extension shorting electrical engagement with the clip" was not disclosed in the specification. The addition of "shorting" makes it new matter.

Claim Objections

1. Claims 1, 7-8 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 1, line 9, the limitation "the exterior" should be changed to "an exterior".

Claims 7-8, line 4, the limitation "the exterior" should be changed to "an exterior".

Claim 7, lines 4-5, the limitation "the stripped end" should be changed to "an stripped end".

Appropriate correction is required.

Art Unit: 2833

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

3. Claims 1, 3-4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Escane (US 6,015,312).

Escane disclose a wire connector comprising:

a housing (10) define cavity therein with openings (42);

an electrically conductive clip (28) having at least first and second retaining finger (38, 38); and

a conductive extension (48) in shorting electrical engagement with the clip.

Regarding claim 3, Escane discloses the housing includes two part the base (20) and the cap (24).

Regarding claim 4, Escane discloses the conductive clip has a plurality of fingers (38) forming a push-in type connector.

Regarding claim 6, Escane discloses the conductive extension (48) is a pigtail.

Regarding claim 7, Escane discloses a method of connecting two or more wire (50) to a common terminus (10), comprising the step of providing a push-in wire connector (10) having a conductive clip (28), providing a conductive extension (48) electrically shorted to the clip and

Art Unit: 2833

extending to the exterior of the housing, pushing the stripped end into the housing and into engagement with the clip, and attaching the extension to said terminus.

4. Claims 1-2 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cumming et al (US 4,722,579).

Regarding claim 1, Cumming et al disclose a wire connector comprising:

a housing (20) defining a cavity therein with opening (un-numbered) permitting the wire (10) to extend into the cavity;

an electrical conductive clip (un-numbered) having at least first and second retaining fingers (50); and

a conductive extension (60) in shorting electrical engagement with the clip and extending through a housing wall of the housing.

Regarding claim 2, Cumming et al disclose the conductive clip has a plurality of tines (50) forming an insulation displacement type connector.

Regarding claim 5, Cumming et al disclose the extension (60) is a blade-type.

5. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Levy (Re. 35,467).

Levy discloses a method of connecting two or more wires (12) having conductors to a terminus (30), comprising the step of providing an insulation displacement connector (30) having a conductive clip (44) inside an insulative housing (20), providing a conductive extension (14) electrically shorted to the clip and extending to the exterior of the housing, placing the first and second wires adjacent the clip, closing the housing to force the wire conductor into engagement with the clip, and attaching the extension to the terminus.

Art Unit: 2833

Conclusion


This is a Non-final

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Truc T. T. Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-306-4004.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula Bradley can be reached on 703-308-2319. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7722 for regular communications and 703-308-7722 for After Final communications.

T. Nguyen
October 9, 2001


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